President Jayawardene's visit to New Delhi

@1091. SHRI NARENDRA SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether President Jayewardene of Sri Lanka paid an official visit to New Delhi for three days with effect from June 30, 1984; and

(b) if so, what specific issues figured during the discussions with him and with what results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A. A. ARHIM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The talk focussed mainly on the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka and the search for an enduring political solution. The Sri Lanka President outlined certain New ideas to which our reactions were conveyed. We stressed the need for some arrangement whereby there could be meaningful devolution of power to the Tamil areas within the framework of Sri Lanka's unity and integrity. President Jayewardene said that these were tentative ideas and that any new proposals would have to emerge from the discussions at the All Parties Conference.

Show-cause notice served on an Engineer in the Electricity Department of Andaman and Nicobar Administration

1092. SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andaman and Nicobar Administration had served a show cause notice on an Executive Engineer in Electricity Department in 1978 proposing imposition of a major penalty *i.e.* removal from service on the recommendation of the Central Vigilance Commission;

(b) if so, what action was finally taken in the matter; and

(c) whether the Executive Engineer in question is still in service and has been officiating as Superintending Engineer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The A&N Administration have informed that no final action could be taken due to Stay Order passed by the Calcutta High Court. The Officer concerned is still in service and looking after the current duties of the post of Superintending Engineer in the Electricity Department in additon to his own duties as Executive Engineer without any extra remuneration.

Entry permit to visit Nicobar Islands

1093. SHRI NIRMAL CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Members of Parliament and Members of Pradsh Council, Andaman and Nicobar Islands are required to obtain entry permits under the Andaman and Nicibar Islands protection of Aboriginal Tribes Regulations, 1956, to visit the Nicobar Islands;

(b) if so, the number of such entry permits issued to Members of Parliament and Members of Pradesh Council, separately since June, 1981; and

(c) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to amend the said Regulations to exempt Members of Parliament and Members of the Pradesh Council from obtaining and producing entry permit for visiting the Nicobar Islands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) No, Sir.

@Previously Unstarred Question No. 669, transferred from the 27th July, 1984.